

### What is ranked choice voting?

In 2006, voters approved an amendment to the Pierce County Charter that instituted Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) for some races. RCV will go into effect for the first time in the 2008 general election. RCV allows voters to choose and rank a first, second and third candidate for a single office. This makes it possible to elect local officials by a majority vote without the need for a separate run-off election.

### Who is elected using ranked choice voting?

Most local officials. Ranked Choice Voting does not affect the election of state and federal officials, judges, or the adoption of ballot measures.

### How does ranked choice voting work?

To start, every voter's first choice vote is counted. Any candidate who receives a majority of more than 50 percent of the first choice votes is declared the winner. If no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the first choice votes, a process of eliminating candidates and transferring votes begins.

- **First**, the candidate who received the fewest number of first choice votes is eliminated from the race.
- **Second**, voters who selected the eliminated candidate as their first choice will have their second and third choices distributed appropriately.
- **Third**, all the votes are recounted.
- **Fourth**, if any candidate receives more than 50 percent of the votes in the second count he or she is declared the winner. If no candidate receives more than 50 percent, the process of elimination, transferring votes and recounting is repeated until one candidate has a winning majority.

### The Ranked Choice Voting Ballot

This brochure shows a sample ranked choice ballot. The ballot you will receive this fall in the mail or at your polling place can be viewed in your voter information pamphlet or online at [www.piercecountywa.org/rcv](http://www.piercecountywa.org/rcv)



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**RANKED CHOICE VOTING**  
A new part of your voting experience.

# Ranked Choice Voting Explained



PHOTO BY TOM WOLTER

# How to Mark the Ranked Choice Ballot

## First Column

Select your first choice candidate by connecting the arrow pointing to your first choice.

## Second Column

To indicate a second choice, select a different candidate by connecting the arrow pointing to your second choice.

## Third Column

To indicate a third choice, select a different candidate than your first and second choices by connecting the arrow pointing to your third choice.

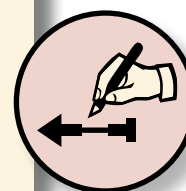
## Write-In Candidates

If you wish to vote for a write-in candidate for any of your three choices, write the person's name on the blank line provided and **connect the arrow** pointing to your write-in choice.

| CANDIDATE<br>PIERCE COUNTY<br>OFFICE  | CANDIDATE<br>PIERCE COUNTY<br>OFFICE   | CANDIDATE<br>PIERCE COUNTY<br>OFFICE  |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <b>1 FIRST CHOICE</b><br>Vote for One | <b>2 SECOND CHOICE</b><br>Vote for One | <b>3 THIRD CHOICE</b><br>Vote for One |
| Eleanor Roosevelt ← →                 | Eleanor Roosevelt ← →                  | Eleanor Roosevelt ← →                 |
| Booker T. Washington ← →              | Booker T. Washington ← →               | Booker T. Washington ← →              |
| Diego Rivera ← →                      | Diego Rivera ← →                       | Diego Rivera ← →                      |
| Arthur Miller ← →                     | Arthur Miller ← →                      | Arthur Miller ← →                     |
| Shirley Horn ← →                      | Shirley Horn ← →                       | Shirley Horn ← →                      |
| Bruce Lee ← →                         | Bruce Lee ← →                          | Bruce Lee ← →                         |
| WRITE-IN ← →                          | WRITE-IN ← →                           | WRITE-IN ← →                          |

## Important

If you select the same candidate in more than one column, your vote for that candidate will only count once.



Connect the  
arrow as shown.

  
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